

# LABOR CLARION

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## Convention of American Federation of Labor Nearing Close

AS THE second week of the Fifty-fourth annual convention of the American Federation of Labor draws to a close indications are that the final hours will be devoted to a feverish attempt to clear up the business in time for adjournment Friday night, with the chances strong that sessions may be continued into Saturday.

Wednesday's deliberations were largely monopolized with consideration of the report of the adjustment committee, which had for several days held hearings on the Building Trades Department controversy which had been referred to it.

The result of the struggle on the floor of the convention was that the executive council's plan for a convention of the department, under the direction of the Federation, to be held in Washington in November, was given approval. This plan contemplates that the three unions excluded from membership in the department at the recent annual convention will be given recognition, with the possibility that they will become the dominant element in the future set-up.

Another feature of Wednesday's deliberations was a vigorous attack on the administration of N.R.A. A report of the resolutions committee on unemployment brought an attack led by Charles P. Howard, president of the International Typographical Union.

"The weakest link in the N.R.A. today is the failure of the government to secure compliance with Section 7-a," said Howard. "It is my opinion we have not been open enough in our criticism where failures occur." He contended that if there is a question of the constitutionality of the act it should be determined at once and efforts made to have Congress enact a law that will stand the test. The speaker attacked the recent "majority-minority" interpretation of Section 7-a by Donald Richberg, N.R.A. co-ordinator. "Unless the American Federation of Labor resists that interpretation union shops can not continue," he said.

Andrew Furuseth, president of the International Seamen's Union, and Harvey Fremming, president of the International Oil Workers, spoke along the same lines.

### Entertainment Features

The sessions of the American Federation of Labor convention during the closing days of last week were considerably interrupted by the entertainment program provided by the committee of the San Francisco Labor Council. The delegates were not disappointed, however, and thoroughly enjoyed the steamboat trip on the bay on Thursday, giving a view of the tremendous bridge-building projects and of the upper reaches of the bay.

The delegates met at 9:30 on the fourth day of the convention and adjourned at 10:15 a. m., after listening to a most interesting address by General Wood Axton, president of the Axton-Fisher Tobacco Company of Louisville, Ky.

After a full day's work on Friday the convention adjourned to 9:30 Monday, October 8.

Saturday was devoted entirely to entertainment. First on the program was an excursion to Mount

Tamalpais and Muir Woods, with a luncheon under the giant redwoods as one of the features. Hundreds of delegates took advantage of the opportunity to visit the near-by mountain and enjoy the wonderful views and experience the novelty of riding above the fog banks.

On the evening of Saturday occurred the grand convention ball, held in the Veterans' building of the War Memorial. The delegates and accompanying ladies to the number of several hundred indulged in dancing until a late hour, and apparently the excellent arrangements made by the committee were thoroughly appreciated by the guests.

### FRIDAY'S SESSIONS

On Friday, October 5, the convention got down to business and began the consideration of committee reports, which brought about several interesting discussions.

The report of the committee on organization considered an organization plan submitted by the executive council, which was favorably reported and adopted by the convention. Organization of agricultural and cannery workers was considered and resulted in the matter being referred to the executive council to work out a plan.

A resolution asking co-operation in organizing culinary workers, introduced by delegates of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees and Beverage Dispensers' International Alliance, brought out an interesting discussion as a result of a statement by Delegate Kovelski that some of the delegates were patronizing restaurants where pickets were stationed, "and the delegates have removed their badges to pass by the pickets."

Delegate Duffy of the Potters called attention to the labeling of hotels and restaurants as union when they are using non-union-made dishes. He objected to the assumption of the right by one union to label a place as 100 per cent union when it uses non-union products, and offered an amendment to the effect that the culinary workers grant the same co-operation to pottery workers as they expect from other organizations.

The matter was disposed of by referring it to "one of the regularly appointed committees" for consideration.

### Sol Rosenblatt Speaks

The proceedings were then interrupted to allow Sol Rosenblatt, divisional administrator of the N.R.A., to address the delegates. He made a very impressive talk, and his closing statement was:

"I submit to you that the codes enacted into law under the N.I.R.A. are entitled to the sympathetic and constructive co-operation of our people, in order that the results sought to be obtained for the benefit of labor, industry, and the consumer in the first instance may be achieved, in order that the aims and aspirations of the President's recovery program may be accomplished, and finally, in order that our people may hereafter be saved and safeguarded from the dire calamities which have overtaken us in the past, and from the mire of which we are now struggling to escape."

President Green expressed the thanks of the

convention to Mr. Rosenblatt, who had made a special trip from Washington to address the gathering.

### Status of Colored Workers

A discussion of the status of colored workers was precipitated by a resolution to authorize and instruct President Green to appoint a committee to investigate the status of the negro workers in national and international unions. The resolution would have committed the Federation to the policy of "elimination of the color clause from the constitutions and rituals of all trade and industrial unions."

The committee recommended non-concurrence because the Federation could not invade the autonomy of its affiliated unions. The committee, however, pointed out that "for the last fifty years all workers, irrespective of creed, color, nationality, sex or politics, are eligible for membership" in the Federation.

The convention adopted an amendment to the report to the effect that a committee be appointed to investigate the condition of the colored workers and report to the next convention.

### Secretary of Labor Perkins

Regretting the limited seating capacity of the hall, which could not accommodate all those who had gathered to hear the speaker, President Green, in a felicitous and complimentary introduction, presented to the convention Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins, who had made the journey from Washington for the especial purpose of addressing the convention. President Green made it plain that it was through his own instrumentality that the delegates were privileged to hear the distinguished speaker.

The secretary of labor then launched into a speech of an hour and a half's duration, reviewing the events of the last two years and the part which labor had played in the momentous events connected with the fight against the industrial depression. She was particularly happy in her references to the amicable relations which had existed between the administration and the officials and representatives of organized labor. And when she closed she was accorded an impressive ovation.

President Green, expressing appreciation of the "inspiring and educational address" of the first lady to occupy a cabinet position, said:

"We realized as we listened intently that she has taken advantage of this opportunity to outline in a more detailed and simple way, simple of understanding, the Recovery program of the administration. We understand it better; we think we know now the aims and purposes of the administration. She has sounded a note of encouragement and inspiration this morning, and I want to assure her with all the sincerity I possess that I pledge to her and to those working with her the whole-hearted support of the American Federation of Labor. We are profoundly impressed by the important words she has uttered, by the convincing message she has brought to us. We are charmed by her presence and we thank her for her visit."

The afternoon session of the convention resumed

consideration of the report of the organization committee, taking up a proposal of Ben T. Osborne of the Oregon State Federation of Labor to levy an assessment of 1 cent a member a month for organization purposes, to be expended under the supervision of the Federation officials. The assessment was non-concurred in by the committee, which, however, recommended that the present intensive organization campaign continue and that subordinate bodies be strongly urged to co-operate in the work.

The report of the committee was unanimously adopted.

#### Building Trades Dispute

A supplementary report and decision of the executive council upon the appeal of representatives of the three organizations which had been excluded from affiliation with the Building Trades Department of the Federation was then laid before the convention. The council said:

"It is the decision of the executive council that the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers of America, and the Bricklayers, Masons and Plasterers' International Union of America were legally affiliated with the Building Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor when the Building Trades Department convention convened in this city on September 26, 1934. For this reason these organizations could not be legally denied the right of representation in the convention of the Building Trades Department. The reasons assigned in the records of the Building Trades Department convention for the rejection of the credentials of the duly elected delegates of the three affiliated organizations were not valid, legal or justifiable."

#### McDonough Decides to Appeal

The executive council declared it would continue its efforts to compose the differences of the disputants, but in the event that no such agreement is reached a convention of the Building Trades Department is to be called to meet at headquarters in Washington within forty-five days from adjournment of the Federation convention, "for the purpose of transacting the business of the department in a legal manner, in accordance with the laws, principles and policies of the American Federation of Labor." The call for the convention is to be issued by President Green "to all organizations affiliated with the Building Trades Department as determined by the executive council of the Federation." The proposed convention is to be presided over by President Green, and actions taken

are to be regarded and accepted as the legal actions of the 1934 convention of the Building Trades Department, and the officers elected shall be regarded as the legally elected officers.

President McDonough of the Building Trades Department took an appeal from the ruling of the council, and the whole matter was referred to the adjustment committee.

Dr. A. Meiklejohn, former president of Amherst College, and now head of the School of Social Studies in San Francisco, was then introduced by President Green. He discoursed very interestingly on the subject of adult education and received the thanks of the presiding officer.

#### Tobin Defends Cummings

Resenting what he termed an injustice that had been done to Attorney General Cummings by Joseph Padway of Wisconsin in a speech before the convention, Daniel J. Tobin, president of the Brotherhood of Teamsters and delegate from that organization, offered a motion that all references in that speech to the attorney general of the United States be stricken from the official records of the Federation. He declared the references were unjust and untrue, "because they give labor a black eye amongst the officials of the United States government."

Tobin gave his experiences with former attorney generals and paid a glowing tribute to Homer Cummings, the present official who had been assailed.

Delegate Ohls of the Wisconsin State Federation of Labor and Delegate Friedrick of the Federated Trades Council of Milwaukee spoke against Tobin's motion, and President Green discussed the matter. He said the Federation conventions were an open forum. No restrictions are placed upon speakers and they are asked to speak frankly. This does not mean, he said, that their utterances are to become the expressed opinion of the convention. Padway's voice "was not the voice of the American Federation of Labor, and we can not help what the newspapers said about him."

President Green asked Tobin to "help us out by withdrawing the motion," which the latter accordingly did, stating that he had accomplished his purpose by having his statement in the record.

#### Deceased Officials

Secretary Morrison then read the list of labor officials and representatives of the Federation deceased since the 1933 convention, with date of death. The delegates and visitors arose and stood in silence for one minute in tribute to the departed.

A report from the committee on state organizations was then read and adopted. It dealt with Porto Rican conditions and with minimum wage laws. State bodies were urged to co-operate with each other in urging minimum wage laws before the respective state legislatures.

The committee on organization again reported the resolution of the culinary workers, urging co-

operation of other unions in organizing the culinary crafts. This had been re-referred for further study. The committee again recommended adoption, and the convention concurred.

A copy of the appeal submitted by the Building Trades Department against the decision of the executive council in the matter of excluding three organizations from affiliation was laid before the convention by President Green, together with the reply of the executive council.

The convention then adjourned until 9:30 o'clock Monday.

#### MONDAY'S SESSIONS

Monday, October 8, a supplementary report of the credentials committee recommended the seating of Hugo Ernst of San Francisco, in place of President Flore, to represent the Hotel and Restaurant Employees, the latter being unable to be in attendance.

The first business taken up was the report of the committee on executive council's report, dealing with trade union benefits, organizing and collective bargaining, Industrial Relations Board, national income, Recovery problems, industrial regimentation, official changes, settlement of the controversy between the United Textile Workers and the International Ladies' Garment Workers, the building trades situation, trade union auxiliaries, American Federation of Government Employees, the Father Charles E. Coughlin protest and workmen's compensation. But one of these subjects, the reputed antagonism of Father Coughlin to the Federation, aroused much debate, and the committee's recommendations were adopted in each instance.

Hon. Charles R. Mabey, governor of the State of Utah and vice-commander of the American Legion, was introduced as the "good-will ambassador" of the Legion, and delivered an address which called forth great applause from the delegates, who arose to honor him.

#### Thirty-Hour Week

The report of the committee on shorter work-day consumed the balance of the time of the morning session. A comprehensive review of the utterances of the executive council and President Green was given, and Chairman Gainor ably espoused the proposal.

The committee recommended that "the executive council be directed to spare no efforts to have legislation enacted that will give mandate and vitality to the thirty-hour week and that they be invested with discretionary authority to do the things best calculated to achieve this end."

President Green and Andrew Furseth, veteran representative of the Sailors' Union, spoke at length, and the entire convention arose and applauded the statement of President Green that—

"There is the position of the American Federation of Labor. We offer it as a challenge to industry and to the government. Out from this convention will go a determined, united army, mobilized and strengthened and enlisted for the purpose of driving home the acceptance of the six-hour day and the five-day week, and nothing will stop us in our realization of this economic reform."

A proposition favoring federal legislation to en-

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force the shorter work-day without pay reduction, introduced by the culinary crafts, was concurred in so far as the subject-matter is concerned. A resolution favoring the eight-hour day for fire fighters also was approved.

A report of a committee appointed under authority of the last convention on the subject of the boycott on German goods and service, submitted by Joseph B. Ryan, president of the New York Central Trades Council; John Fitzpatrick, president of the Chicago Federation of Labor, and Selma M. Borchardt of the American Federation of Teachers, was laid before the convention by President Green. It was a voluminous document and was referred to the committee on resolutions.

#### Francis Gorman Speaks

An event that had been looked forward to with interest by the delegates was an address by Francis J. Gorman, vice-president of the United Textile Workers of America, who was in charge of the recent great strike in that industry. Gorman had made the journey to San Francisco by airplane especially to tell the convention of the "greatest strike American labor has ever had."

In the course of his remarks Gorman said:

"Using the most sober judgment of which I am capable, and putting back of it the judgment of other men, I say to you that this organized labor movement has just begun to advance its lines, has just begun to mark out its path for tomorrow, has just begun to fill up its regiment for the orderly and constructive task of participating in the making of the terms and conditions under which labor will give service and for participation in the democratic practices in industry which must and will be developed if democracy is to continue in any sphere. We have just begun. And I know we shall not turn back."

The reports of the committee on labels and the committee on legislation occupied the rest of the afternoon. The subjects covered were various, and will not be given in detail here. They will undoubtedly be the subjects of future discussion.

#### TUESDAY'S SESSIONS

The seventh day of the convention opened with consideration of the report of the committee on industrial relations, which dealt mainly with a resolution declaring a boycott on the Kohler Manufacturing Company of Kohler, Wis., where violence had attended a strike of the employees, during which two persons were killed and forty wounded. The resolution detailed incidents of the controversy, which involved violations of Section 7-a of the Recovery Act.

The committee recommended striking out the boycott feature, and the executive council was directed "to take such other means as it may deem necessary and advisable to make the fight against this most unfair company effective." Thus amended, it was adopted.

The report of the committee on education, submitted by Delegate Hanson of the Teachers' Federation, was then taken up. This report dealt with all phases of public education, and was most comprehensive, giving voice to the traditional policy of the American Federation of Labor on educational subjects.

#### Address of Walter M. Citrine

"An intellectual treat is in store for us," said President Green in introducing Walter M. Citrine, general secretary of the British Trades Union Congress and president of the International Federation of Trade Unions, who came to San Francisco as the guest of the Federation. "We are fortunate indeed to have him with us," said Green, and he described the visitor as "an outstanding, well-informed—perhaps the best informed—representative of labor in Europe upon the economic, political and social problems" affecting the workers of Great Britain.

Citrine made an eloquent plea for a world-wide labor drive against the tyranny and domination of

Fascism. He gave a picture of the suffering and misery in Europe, and charged that the dictators of Europe were leading the world to economic destruction.

"The battle of democracy is being fought in Europe, and I have come to you for help," he said. "I can't believe that you will refuse it." He continued:

"In the wake of the Fascist drive lies the wreckage of trade unions in Europe. The record of Fascism is one of repression, brutality and terrorism. It is a record of failure and of futility. It has not achieved any of the objects it set out to perform. It has contributed more than any other factor to the feeling of insecurity which has brought the possibility of another widespread war to the forefront."

Evidently regarding Fascism and Nazism as identical, Citrine gave a review of German events under Hitler and of the condition of Austria. He quoted Lincoln's memorable Gettysburg address, and said that the fight of European trade unionists can not be won without American labor's material, moral and financial help.

Citrine was given an ovation lasting several minutes at the conclusion of his address.

B. Charney Vladeck, general manager of the Jewish Daily "Forward," was then presented, and made an eloquent plea for co-operation along similar lines to those laid down by Citrine.

#### The Brewery Dispute

Tuesday afternoon's session was taken up almost entirely with the report of the committee on executive council's report, which dealt with the controversy between brewery workers, teamsters, engineers and firemen. The Brewery Workers, claiming jurisdiction over other crafts employed in and around breweries, had been overruled by a previous convention, but refused to relinquish jurisdiction over the teamsters, engineers and firemen. At the suggestion of the executive council the Brewery Workers held a referendum on compliance, which overwhelmingly sustained the action of their officials. All efforts having failed to bring about an adjustment of the controversy, the executive council held that its only course was to follow the mandate of the convention.

The committee recommended that "the officers of the American Federation of Labor continue their efforts to bring about a condition under which the decision of the Washington convention will be observed and complied with."

The effect of this would be to confirm the previous action awarding jurisdiction over teamsters, engineers and firemen to the organizations of these three crafts.

On this basis a debate which at times became acrimonious continued during the afternoon, and resulted in the committee's recommendation being adopted by a roll call vote.

The principal speakers were Daniel J. Tobin and Joseph Obergfell.

## Tobacco Manufacturer Addresses Convention

In addressing the convention of the American Federation of Labor last week General Wood Axton, president of the Axton-Fisher Tobacco Company of Louisville, Ky., who had been introduced by President Green as "an employer of labor who is sympathetic with the aims and purposes of the American Federation of Labor," said in part:

"Here in this audience I see E. Lewis Evans, president of the Tobacco Workers' International Union of America. It was over thirty-five years ago that Mr. Evans came to my factory to organize it. I can say to the benighted employers of labor who think organized labor is bad, that after operating a union factory for thirty-five years, Mr. Evans and I are still friends. . . .

"Patents on labor-saving machinery were not granted to throw men out of employment, but rather to lighten their labors and give them more comforts and luxuries. I do not believe that a man should do the work of a horse, or do that which can be done by machinery. We must go forward and not backward. I do know that a bigger share of what labor produces should go to the producer. When I say producer I refer to the farmer as well as the industrial worker."

"I am not so much interested in the money wages paid for labor today as I am in the real wages paid. What I mean by real wages is the amount of products you can buy back with the wages received. After all, if we are ever to have a return of prosperity in this country the producer must have enough to buy back the products of his labor."

"I am referred to as an employer of labor. I am not an employer of labor. The people who buy the products of our factory are the real employers of labor. When people cease to buy our products, or the products of any other factory, employment ceases in the same proportion as purchasing power ceases. After all, labor is the largest employer of labor we have in this or any other country. . . .

"It is not a question of over-production, but one of under-consumption. I honestly and sincerely believe the best solution yet offered is the one advanced by your worthy president—reduce the hours of labor to the point where all who desire to work shall have that opportunity—to which I most heartily subscribe."

#### PREPAREDNESS

An old lady in church was seen to bow whenever the name of Satan was mentioned. One day the minister met her and asked her why she did so. "Well," she replied, "politeness costs nothing—and, you never know."—Ex.

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1934

## Dealing With "Business Unions"

It is most gratifying at this time, when the convention of the American Federation of Labor is in session in San Francisco, to observe the attitude of the local newspapers toward trade unionism. Invariably they have recorded the deliberations with impartiality, if anything leaning to the sympathetic side; and while they have given more attention to sensational write-ups of possible schisms within the ranks of the Federation than the situation warrants, this may be taken as in the nature of legitimate news.

But the remarkable feature of the newspaper attitude is the understanding of labor problems displayed by the editorial writers. There has been criticism, to be sure, but this has been of a constructive nature, and on the whole the local daily press has dealt more than fairly with the unions, in startling contrast with its attitude toward them during the recent "general strike."

Notable among the comment on labor subjects appearing during the last two weeks is an editorial in the San Francisco "Chronicle" of Tuesday last which is in all respects a reflex of what labor organizations and labor publications have been trying to impress upon employers and employers' organizations for years past. It deals with the marine strike on the Atlantic coast; but is equally applicable to labor controversies in all branches of industry at the present time. It emphasizes the truism that if employers will not deal with legitimate unions they will be compelled to face the machinations of radical organizations whose mission is not economical but revolutionary. As the "Chronicle" writer puts it, "They do not care whether they win a strike or not." The last paragraph of the editorial is especially significant. The article is as follows:

"The strike of the 'red' Marine Workers' Union, in the East, while the employers were peacefully arbitrating with the regular Seamen's Union, is another reminder that the best protection employers could find against destructive labor movements would be in dealing cordially with the constructive unions of the American Federation of Labor. The other alternative, of having no unions at all, or of refusing to deal with their members through them, is a dream. Those who still cherish this illusion have not yet waked up."

"What the Federation unions want is better business bargains with their employers. Sometimes they ask for more than employers think they are in a position to grant. So do customers and competitors. But nobody thinks of abolishing customers and competitors for that reason. One deals with them, and stands up for his own side. Usually

the result is something that neither side wants, but which both accept.

"It is the same thing in making labor bargains, provided you make them with a business body, like the Federation unions, which wants a good business deal for its side. You want a better one for your side. Finally you agree on something.

"But not in dealing with destructive unions, like these 'red' outlaw bodies, which do not believe in business and do not want a business bargain, good or bad, for themselves. These 'red' unions are looking, not for better wages, but for the destruction of the wage system. They do not care whether they win a strike or not. They would rather lower the employers' profits by losing the strike than raise their own wages by winning it. What they are looking for is trouble, in the interest of the 'revolution,' rather than a better job for themselves.

"Since labor is going to be organized anyway, and to be dealt with through its organization, it is far better business to do business with a business union than to have a war, even if you win it, with a warring union."

## "The Long Wage"

The report of the executive committee of the American Federation of Labor to the convention at San Francisco is packed with valuable information and sound reasoning. One item in particular is so briefly stated and so important that it ought to be set by itself. Speaking of the need of more buying power through better wages, the committee says:

"These wage increases should be attained through collective bargaining, and should provide not only higher hourly rates but assure the workers more stable weekly and annual incomes."

In other words, the committee is directing the attention of the convention and the country to what Senator Couzens of Michigan so potently called "the long wage."

Every reactionary who wants to "slam" organized labor, and particularly the building trades, talks about the hourly rates of pay, and exclaims that these are extortionate. If he would cite the fees of corporation lawyers and the bonuses of corporation officials, he could do still better exclaiming. The union bricklayer gets \$1.25 an hour—when he gets work. Eugene R. Grace of the Bethlehem Steel Corporation got about \$700 an hour in bonus alone—and got it for a full year. And some of the fees of Wall Street attorneys figure fully up to the steel trust level.

In ordinary times it matters comparatively little what a man earns in an hour. What he earns in a day is no life and death matter—but what he earns in a year is just that. The long wage, the yearly wage, is what counts; and every opponent of increased wages tries to keep the worker from realizing and insisting on that point.

## Three Momentous Events

During the past few weeks three major events have seriously affected the European and Asiatic situations. Two of the events definitely aid the maintenance of world peace—one definitely points toward war.

The last came from Italy, when Il Duce announced that every Italian citizen will be given army training—from the ages of 8 to 33! Children of 8 will be enlisted in juvenile battalions, will be subject to the influence of martial spirit. As they grow older they will be given intensive training in the arts of war. That announcement caused much concern in Europe—Mussolini, for all his speeches concerning peace, is dangerous. Italy is now overpopulated and can not produce enough to adequately support her people. Yet Mussolini offers prizes for large families, heavily taxes bachelors and is a relentless enemy of birth control. He wants more Italians when their country

can't take care of them. The answer can only be conquest.

Happier events are found in the solution of the Chinese Eastern Railway problem, and the admittance of Russia into the League of Nations. The Chinese railroad, jointly owned by Japan and Russia, has been a constant source of trouble. Japan threatened to seize the line, and Russia concentrated army divisions, tanks, artillery and planes at Vladivostok, intimating that if Nippon tried to carry out her threat she would have a war on her hands. Today, when the Bear snarls, it means something. Russia has one of the largest and best equipped of all armies.

A fortnight ago Japan and Russia, after long discussions, came close to an agreement whereby Japan will buy the line. A comparatively small amount of money separated the bargainers, and it looks as if the "most dangerous railroad in the world" will shortly become only a harmless branch of the world's transport system.

As for the admission of Russia to the League of Nations, it will immensely increase that body's power in preventing and settling international arguments and in enforcing peace. Whether you like communism or not, Russia is the largest of all major powers, in both area and population. She really wants peace—not for humanitarian reasons, but because her gigantic internal development program requires the concentration of all her resources at home. She can't afford to fight.

Decisions by the Supreme Court on the constitutionality of two questions involving the President's "new deal" may be expected soon, as Washington dispatches indicate that these cases are to be taken up immediately. They are the petroleum code and suspension of gold payments. Two oil cases will be reviewed, it is said by recommendation of the President, who has not heretofore shown a keen desire to press for court action on the new legislation. The court has refused to review two gold hoarding cases, in which the executive order of the President was challenged.

The appointment of Clay Williams, formerly head of the anti-union R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, to the governing body of the National Recovery Administration is generally looked upon as "a slap in the face for labor." Charges that Williams "worked his employees full time for \$7 a week even in boom times" indicate that such a man was the worst possible selection for a position on a board whose mission is to increase the buying power of labor under the terms of the Recovery Act. The convention of the American Federation of Labor was justified in expressing its indignation.

New York's search for new sources of revenue has resulted in placing J. P. Morgan's famous library, containing some of the rarest and most costly books in the world, on the city tax rolls at a valuation of \$1,665,000. It has been exempt from taxation for the last ten years on the ground that it is a public institution; but in view of the fact that ordinary citizens are only admitted to its portals on a written order, which occasions delays of several days, it is erroneously classified. There is a widespread belief, not only in New York but elsewhere, that if all property which now unjustly escapes taxation were put on the rolls the financial difficulties of many communities would be overcome.

During six weeks state directors of N.R.A. compliance collected \$323,000 in back wages for 8167 workers involved in the 4158 complaints presented. If this is a fair sample of the sort of thing that is going on continuously and extensively when complaints are not made, it means a substantial reduction in workers' buying power.

## Comment and Criticism

I. L. N. S.

The late Vice-President Tom Marshall was witty but not correct. What the country needs most is not his famous good five-cent cigar; but six or eight or ten million more dairy cows, and enough income for all people to buy the milk which they and their children need.

Experts agree that the right diet would include one quart of milk daily for each child, and one pint for each adult. In the general population, this works out at a bit less than one and one-half pints per person each day.

The milk survey of the three A's has covered fifty-nine cities in forty-six states; and not once has it found a community where the use of milk even approaches that level. The North uses more milk than the South; white families use more than colored; but the biggest single factor seems to be size of income. In industrial towns, with low-paid workers, the use of milk drops to the neighborhood of the vanishing point.

\* \* \*

In Birmingham, Ala., in 337 representative families studied, each person got four-tenths of a pint of milk a day.

In Globe, Ariz., a smelter town, people got just a little over three-tenths of a pint each a day. Over 38 per cent of the families studied bought no fresh milk at all.

In Butte, Mont., a copper mining town, people used forty-four one-hundredths of a pint of milk each per day.

In Pueblo, Colo., with its steel works, and in Winston-Salem, N. C., with its textile mills, the average use of milk is a little less than three-tenths of a pint a day. In West Virginia, Wheeling and Clarksburg get half a pint of milk each day for each resident, but Charleston is content with four-tenths.

\* \* \*

Lawrence, Mass., mill town as it is, gets six-tenths of a pint for each of its people; which is as well as Wichita, Kan., does, right out in the farming belt; while Des Moines, in the heart of Iowa, runs a little under a half pint. In California, San Francisco, with six-tenths of a pint per person, stands higher than Los Angeles, with not quite half a pint; but the altitude is not spacious.

Charleston, S. C., has the lowest use of milk of any city studied; but it would not be fair to quote this without explanation. It is the only Southern city which included colored families in the survey. Of the 367 families studied in Charleston, 165 were colored, and 100 of these reported buying no milk at all. The average for the whole group, white and colored, was one-tenth of a pint each per day.

More cows, better wages to enable people to buy milk, and more training in the value of milk as a food—the country needs all these, in almost limitless measure.

\* \* \*

The Associated Press reports that in Rome, Ga., the National Guard, armed with bayonets and machine guns, "broke the strike" in the foundries. And not by word, look or punctuation mark does the Associated Press indicate that it has any idea of the amazing tale that it is telling.

National Guardsmen have no more business to break strikes than they have to break rocks, or faro banks. Their sole business is to keep order. Keeping order in an orderly manner does not break a strike. It takes coercion, moral or physical, to do that; it takes force or the very present show and threat of force.

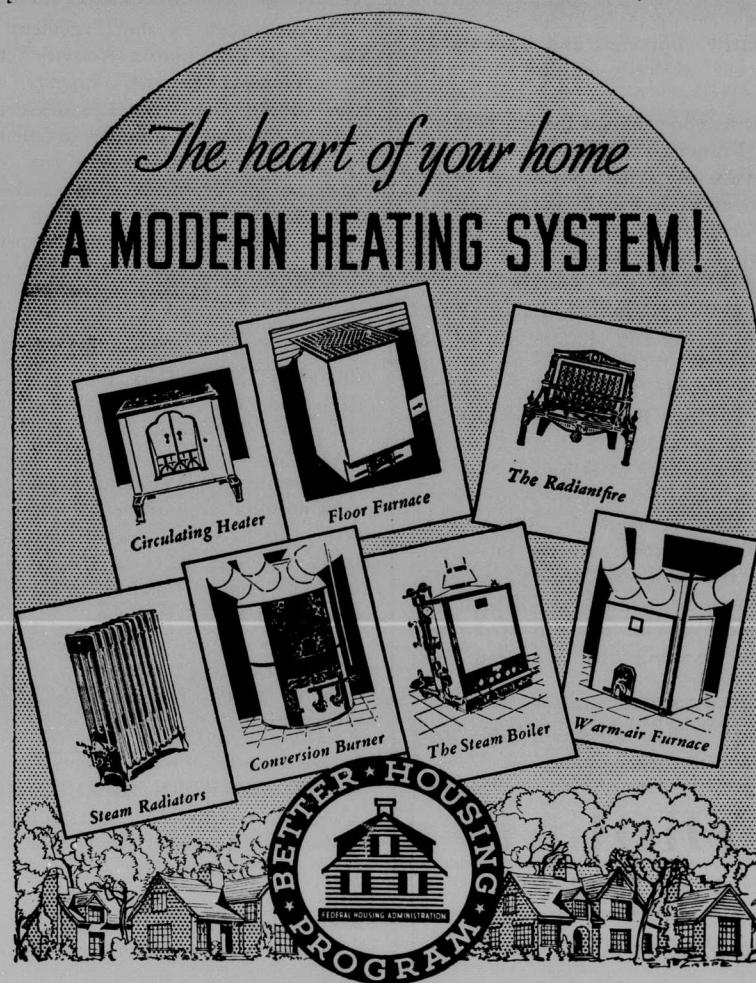
By what right does any state put its military power at the service of one side in an industrial dispute?

### BETTER HOUSING PROGRAM

Selection of Lewis P. Hobart, San Francisco architect and designer of the Bohemian Club, Grace Cathedral, William Taylor Hotel, Hotel Del Monte and many other noted structures, as chairman of the finance committee of San Francisco's \$7,000,000 better housing program is announced by Charles M. Cadman, general chairman of the campaign. Cadman also announced the selection of George R. Gay of the Santa Cruz Portland Cement Company and John R. Cahill of Cahill Bros. as vice-chairmen of the committee.

### MELLON IN BAD AGAIN

The Mellon-controlled Gulf Oil Company has been held in \$2500 bail on charges of violating the petroleum industry code, says a Philadelphia dispatch. The government charged the company with twenty-four violations of the code, particularly the labor section governing the hours of work for employees at its Girard Point refinery. The charges will be presented to the grand jury for consideration. If indicted and convicted, Gulf officials will be liable to \$1000 fine, imprisonment not exceeding six months, or both.



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## Upholstery Employers Obstructing Mediation

The Coast-wide strike of upholsterers which was inaugurated on Monday of last week continues, with no immediate prospect of adjustment. Every upholstering plant in the Bay district is closed down for the first time in the history of the industry here.

Six hundred workers in the Los Angeles area went out this week, and reports from the Northwest cities of Seattle, Portland and Tacoma are to the effect that the workers are out almost 100 per cent.

J. B. Frink, N.R.A. code official for the industry, has been in San Francisco for several days, and was expected to take some action toward adjustment of the controversy. But as he is the secretary of the National Furniture Manufacturers' Association the members of the striking unions are not sanguine of assistance from that quarter.

Mrs. A. M. Rossiter, Regional Labor Board secretary, is authority for the statement that the employers have reversed their position twice with regard to the wage dispute, and are now delaying mediation efforts. The San Francisco employers in the industry offered to meet the demands of the workers for a minimum wage of \$1 an hour on condition that the raise was met in Los Angeles and the Northwest. Manufacturers in those areas agreed to hold a joint meeting with the union representatives after the workers decided whether they would return to work pending mediation. The workers decided not to call off the strike and the employers are delaying the proposed joint meeting.

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## American Civil Liberties Union Resents Communist Classification

Through Chester S. Williams, its organizing director, the American Civil Liberties Union, San Francisco branch, resents a report by President William Green of the American Federation of Labor which "expressly conveys the impression that the A. C. L. U. is a communist organization with a subversive purpose different from its stated objectives."

In a letter addressed to the Federation president at the convention hall in San Francisco Williams says:

"Your report to the President of the United States on 'Communist Activity,' taken from the 'Congressional Record,' appears in the October issue of the 'California Legionnaire.' With it is a cartoon showing a number of labeled 'rats' gnawing away at the roots of a tree symbolizing the American government. One of these 'rats' is labeled 'American Civil Liberties Union.' A man, poised with a club labeled 'American Federation of Labor,' stands ready to beat the rats....

"You know (1) that the A. C. L. U. is not connected in any way with the communist movement or any political organization; (2) that the union is constantly attacked by the communists; (3) that we demand that their right to attack us by lawful means and to civil liberty shall not be suppressed."

As evidence that the Civil Liberties Union is not communistic Williams names a few members of its national committee, as follows: Felix Frankfurter, Richard C. Cabot, Frederic C. Howe, Henry T. Hunt, Norman Hapgood, Judge Charles Amidon, Amos Pinchot, Charles Beard, John Dewey and Susan Brandeis.

Williams suggests that President Green should either retract his statements or investigate their truth or falsity. He challenges him to make the investigation.

## WAR ON DUAL UNIONS

A change in the constitution of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, the first in thirteen years, was made at the annual convention in Toronto. With the object of facilitating the fight against dual unions, the congress will issue Federal charters to industrial unions until such time as the industry in a particular locality is sufficiently organized in the general system of international trade unionism.

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## Defeat of M. F. Tighe Unofficially Reported

Although official results of the election of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers will not be known until October 20, when the canvassing board will meet in Pittsburgh and open the sealed ballots, it is stated unofficially that Michael F. Tighe, 76-year-old president of the association, has been defeated.

An American Federation of Labor news dispatch from Pittsburgh says that indications are that George J. Williams of Canonsburg has been elected to succeed Tighe, who has served as president of the association for fifteen years.

Williams was backed by the "rank and file" leaders who nearly precipitated a nation-wide steel strike during the summer. Tighe was supported by the "old-timers" and conservatives. According to one survey, about 6100 votes were cast September 15, the official election day.

## National Labor Relations Board Reaffirms Ruling in Houde Case

Following its decisions in the cases of the Houde Engineering Corporation and the Guide Lamp Corporation the National Labor Relations Board has reaffirmed the majority rule principle in the case of the Columbian Steel Tank Company of Kansas City, Mo.

The main point at issue related to an election conducted in the plant of the Columbian Steel Tank Company by the Kansas City Regional Labor Board on July 10. The National Labor Relations Board, after reviewing the evidence taken by one of its representatives in Kansas City, found that out of 172 employees eligible to vote, 91 had cast their ballots for Lodge No. 83 of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Shipbuilders and Helpers, and none had voted for any other representative.

The board, applying the majority rule, declared that the union was the exclusive bargaining agency of the employees eligible to participate in the election.

## President of Musicians' Union Returns From Trip to Europe

American industrial recovery will receive very little help from trade with Europe, so one of the foremost aims of the government should be to protect American workers from competition with cheap labor abroad.

Joseph N. Weber, president of the American Federation of Musicians and a vice-president of the American Federation of Labor, so declared in New York upon his return from a two months' tour of Europe, in which he observed general labor conditions.

Union musicians of the United States and Canada may console themselves with the thought that while employment conditions in the musical and theatrical fields here are very distressing, still they might be worse—because in Europe they are worse, far worse, Weber said.

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## Great Hunt for Facts Begun by Government In Textile Industry

Bringing the fruits of the great textile strike victory to a head in the fastest action on record, the United States government is converging on the industry in the biggest fact-hunting expedition in American industrial history, says a Washington dispatch.

The three agencies now at work and well on the way are: (1) The Textile Labor Relations Board, headed by Judge Walter P. Stacy; (2) the bureau of labor statistics, directed by Dr. Isidor Labin; (3) the Federal Trade Commission, under chairmanship of Garland S. Ferguson Jr.

### Battling Discrimination

The Textile Labor Relations Board is driving hard in the battle against discrimination. The first cases have been filed by the union. Action was started at once and before night an agent of the board was en route to Columbus, Ga., scene of the six mills involved in the first complaints. The union has followed up rapidly with new complaints each day, the total running into thousands.

Meanwhile the bureau of labor statistics started its forces into the field. On one day last week 100 workers were sent out. These forces will get from employers' books a full set of facts on wages, hours and working conditions. This report will form the basis for wage readjustments.

At the same time the Federal Trade Commission began its investigation of the financial condition of mills, throwing an enormous force into the job.

### Real and Smashing Victory

No such undertaking to find the inside facts of a single industry in so short a time has ever been undertaken. The textile victory was a real and smashing one, and these movements are its immediate result. Their fruit will come in adjustment of hours, wages and work load, while through the Textile Labor Relations Board the right to organize and bargain through unions will be established.

That the industry will fight the Textile Labor Relations Board to the last ditch is clear, but victory is not doubted by union officials.

### Intensive Organizing Campaign

Meanwhile the union has launched an intensive organizing campaign on every front, using new and effective methods to bring together the entire strength of the workers in one compact, solid organization under the banner of the United Textile Workers.

The fact-hunting expeditions now under way will, the government agencies announce, be pushed with all possible speed and the results will be in hand, ready for use, within an incredibly short time.

As these powerful agencies move on with their job the tremendous scope and importance of the union victory becomes clearer to everyone.

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## Inexcusable Policy of Ship Owners Responsible for Morro Tragedy

The disaster in which more than a hundred persons lost their lives recently when the steamship Morro Castle was destroyed by fire on the Atlantic coast was inexcusable, according to Andrew Furseth, president of the International Seamen's Union. In a newspaper interview he intimated he would ask the American Federation of Labor convention to take action toward insistence on trained crews for all ocean vessels.

"No ocean vessel, properly equipped, ever burned in any fire started on any deck if that ship had the proper watchman and the proper crews on duty," he said. He continued:

"Crews on New York-Havana liners frequently pay for their jobs so they may smuggle narcotics.

"The situation is the same as that of a city which buys the best in fire fighting equipment and then picks up its firemen anywhere on the street."

## Quietus Given Company Union by National Labor Relations Board

Decisive action by the National Labor Relations Board last week served notice that the herding of employees into company unions by coercion will not be tolerated.

The board completely outlawed a union which it held was fostered through duress and bribery by the North Carolina Granite Corporation.

Although the company union included a majority of the employees, the board ordered the firm to deal only with the Granite Cutters' International Association, which had represented a majority until the men found their jobs depended on enlisting with the company union.

## AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK

A citizens' committee composed of San Francisco civic leaders will be formed within ten days for the observance of American Education Week, from November 4 to 11, an annual event, sponsored by the national headquarters of the American Legion, the United States Office of Education and the National Education Association. Already an executive committee headed by Dr. Edwin A. Lee, superintendent of the San Francisco public schools, has been organized, and at a meeting held on last Monday plans were perfected for bringing into every San Francisco home the campaign theme, "Educating for Tomorrow."

The watchword of organized labor should be, "Seek the union label when buying anything, large or small."

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## New Recovery Board Faces Many Problems

As the dynamic General Hugh S. Johnson passes out of the N.R.A. picture the new policy board, composed of seven men, has undertaken the huge task of remodeling the National Recovery Administration.

Meantime, Lloyd Garrison, able head of the National Labor Relations Board, has definitely decided to quit and return to his duties at Wisconsin University, from which he had obtained a leave of absence for only three months, says the American Federation of Labor "Weekly News."

The seven-man board selected to replace General Hugh S. Johnson, resigned, began a searching investigation of the rambling N.R.A. structure. Their task is to revise the Recovery unit to make it more acceptable to Congress, industry, labor and the consumer.

It was the board's first meeting and its members made a diplomatic approach to the multiple problems awaiting attention.

### Richberg a Powerful Figure

S. Clay Williams, chairman of the new agency, said Richberg outlined "our mission" and that the entire code structure of N.R.A. had been reviewed. No decisions will be made for several days.

Donald R. Richberg, director of the Industrial Emergency Committee and second only to President Roosevelt as the most powerful figure in the government today, conferred at length with the retiring administrator. Richberg, who clashed repeatedly with Johnson over matters of N.R.A. policy and personnel when he was active as chief counsel of the Recovery agency, intimated if there had been wounds they were now healed.

"We have no quarrel," Richberg said with a smile. "The talk about that is all the bunk."

Arthur D. Whiteside, another member of the board, denied reports that he quit his job as division administrator six months ago because of N.R.A. price-fixing policy.

Slit skirts are stylish in Paris, says fashion note. Now there's our idea of knee action.—Greensboro (Ga.) "Herald-Journal."

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## Run o' the Hook

(This department is conducted by the president of San Francisco Typographical Union No. 21)

The special open meeting of San Francisco Typographical Union in the auditorium of the Labor Temple last Sunday afternoon, to welcome the executive officers of the International Typographical Union, the International's delegates to the American Federation of Labor convention and members of the Typographical Union who are representing various state federations of labor and city central labor bodies in the convention, was well attended, notwithstanding it had as counter attractions a perfect October day, a world's series baseball game and at least one major local football game. Addresses on a number of subjects pertaining to the International's activities, welfare and perpetuation, including the old-age pension, the mortuary benefit, the Home in Colorado Springs, unemployment relief, the state of trade and economic conditions in various localities in the I. T. U. jurisdiction, the shorter work-day and work-week, and the methods by which they can be obtained, and the graphic arts and newspaper codes were made by President Charles P. Howard, First Vice-President C. M. Baker, Second Vice-President Francis G. Barrett; W. R. Trotter, I. T. U. statistician; Frank X. Martel, Jack Gill and John Simons, I. T. U. delegates to the American Federation of Labor convention; A. S. Nance of Atlanta (Ga.) Mailers' Union No. 34; R. J. McAnnally, secretary of the Iowa State Federation of Labor and member of Burlington Typographical Union No. 75; Henry Ohl, Jr., of Milwaukee Union No. 23, representing the Wisconsin state branch of the A. F. of L.; John A. Phillips of Philadelphia Union No. 2, a delegate from the Pennsylvania state branch, and C. C. Nunnally, of Modesto Union No. 689, recently re-elected vice-president of the California State Federation of Labor. The wives of a number of the visitors also attended the meeting, as did also many of the ladies of the Women's Auxiliaries of Oakland and San Mateo, and shared in the welcome extended by San Francisco Union. The local union's band presented a pleasing program, and was liberally applauded for its demonstration of musical ability. Mrs. Walker, Los Angeles "Citizen" correspondent, briefly addressed the meeting. Harry L. White, former secretary-treasurer of San Francisco Union, was among the veteran members present, and in the group from northern California Typographical Unions were President Ewing, Vice-President Hurd, Secretary-

Treasurer Chaudet and D. K. Stauffer (former president of San Francisco Union) of Oakland Union, President Ralph Titus of Sacramento Union, President Warmke, Secretary Darrow and Charles ("Easy Pickin's") Stewart of San Jose Union, Secretary A. B. Rotter of Monterey, President Warner and Secretary Hill of San Mateo, Secretary J. A. Switzer of Modesto and Andy McDonald of Stockton. A pleasing incident of the afternoon was the introduction of Charles H. Parker, venerable and venerated member of San Francisco Union and a pioneer in the trade union movement, who recently attained his eighty-second birthday and whose affiliation with the union has spanned almost sixty years. The flow of oratory and music did not cease until 5:10 p. m., and following an informal social half hour adjournment was taken. It was another meeting that will remain long in the memory of those who were present to enjoy it.

San Francisco Typographical Union No. 21 played host to a score or more of printer delegates and visitors to the American Federation of Labor convention at a dinner-dance at Edgewater Beach last Tuesday. Guests and hosts present numbered about 150. Excellent music and specialty dancing featured the evening's entertainment, which was unanimously pronounced a success. The affair afforded an opportunity for several little reunions of printer folk who had been denied the privilege of a meeting for several years.

Members of the union's band should keep in mind that rehearsals are being held at 10:30 o'clock a. m. each Sunday (except the third Sunday of each month, on which day the regular monthly meeting of the union is held). Rehearsals at 7:30 o'clock every Thursday evening, as heretofore established, will continue. Practice periods last for an hour and a half. They are held in the recreation room of the union, 16 First street. Every member of the union who is a band instrumentalist is cordially invited to participate in the rehearsals. With the generous support that is being given by individual members of the union, the band is becoming better equipped with new music and the needed musical accessories, and is making commendable progress. By the way, what did you think of its performance at last Sunday's special open meeting of the union?

Here's one for newswriters: Katherine Laurence has been reporting news for the Clinton (Mass.) "Courant" for fifty years.

The funeral of Harry Miller Hardin, whose sudden death in San Diego was announced in the Labor Clarion last Friday, was held at 11 o'clock a. m. last Monday from a local mortuary chapel. Mr. Hardin, a native of Kentucky, had been a California resident for more than forty-eight years, the last nine of which were spent in San Francisco, where he was employed in the composing room of the "Examiner." Mr. Hardin succumbed to a heart ailment. Inurnment of his remains was at Cypress Lawn Cemetery. These members of the "Examiner" chapel were Mr. Hardin's pallbearers: B. E. Apte, M. G. Bruvry, W. R. Gafe, H. M. Hawkins, W. B. Latta and T. C. Ziegler.

Her many friends will learn of the serious illness of Mrs. R. G. Vernor with much sorrow. Mrs.

## Mailer Notes

By LEROY C. SMITH

As yet no printed reports of the proceedings of the regular 1934 M. T. D. U. convention have been sent to this local for distribution. Printed proceedings of the special M. T. D. U. convention of a year ago, to consider withdrawal of its members from the I. T. U., were sent to the "outlaw" unions, which refused to consider any such unwise proposition as favoring withdrawal from the I. T. U. From the overwhelming defeat of the propositions submitted by M. T. D. U. delegates to the Chicago convention it would seem the M. T. D. U. is destined to slowly fade from the picture; and likewise grandiose schemes sponsored by the M. T. D. U. officers looking to the formation of an international mailers' union. Thus thousands of dollars contributed by M. T. D. U. members to lost causes sponsored by M. T. D. U. officers are just so much water over the dam.

In four months from now it will be seven years since San Francisco Mailers' Union seceded from the M. T. D. U. Notwithstanding statements made by the secretary-treasurer of the M. T. D. U. at the Boston convention, that "mailer unions could not prosper unless affiliated with the M. T. D. U.," all the "outlaw" mailer unions are in a healthy condition at the present time.

A larger representation of members of the local Mailers' Union would no doubt have been in attendance at the open meeting of Typographical Union No. 21, given in honor of I. T. U. officers at the Labor Temple last Sunday, were it not that the greater majority of No. 18's members go to work early Saturday afternoons and do not finish work on morning papers until a late or early hour Sunday morning.

With a roto insert during the week and additional pages added, and increased circulation, both regulars and subs had a busy week on the "Chronicle," which also printed many thousands of a food store broadside, giving subs an extra day with considerable overtime for the week.

C. N. Butler of 628 Forty-sixth avenue, believed to have been struck by a street car or an automobile one evening last week in the downtown section, was removed to St. Francis Hospital, where he is said to be suffering from possible skull fracture.

Vernor is a patient in Mills Hospital, San Mateo. Each and every one of her fellow members of the Typographical Union is earnestly hoping for her early recovery.

Did you know that until quite recently no Hungarian publications were permitted to enter Czechoslovakia from Hungary?

Printers and proofreaders, beware! There are no less than eighty different and authentic ways of spelling Hartlepool, a city in England. It dates from the time of the Vikings.

## Frank Devlin Is Again Member Of State Railroad Commission

After thirteen years, Frank Devlin, San Francisco attorney, again is a member of the California State Railroad Commission.

He was appointed this week to that body by Governor Merriam to take the place of Clyde L. Seavey, recently appointed to the Federal Power Commission by President Roosevelt.

Devlin was first appointed to the commission in 1915 by Governor Johnson, was elected its president in February, 1921, and resigned two months later to resume private practice of law.

Devlin at one time was district attorney of Solano county, then a superior judge there, and, in 1911, a member of the Legislature.

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## "What Have Unions Done for Workers?"

In a recent issue of the Christchurch (New Zealand) "Star" there appeared the story of a ship's crew who, as part of the prison labor, were employed in levelling the streets at Lyttleton in 1858. How they came to this changed occupation is told in a brief police court record of that time.

One of the crew of the Westminster, James Russell, brought an action against the master, Captain Westgarth, for an assault committed on board the vessel the previous day. The remainder of the crew appeared in support of their shipmate, and they all asked for a discharge in consequence of the ill-usage and brutality of the captain.

This seaman swore that, when in a boat alongside after bringing the captain of the vessel aboard, he had been ordered by a midshipman to unship the rowlock, and he refused. The captain heard this, took him to his cabin, sent everyone else out, then seized him by the hair and struck him with the poker. After he had knocked the man out, he beat him with an inch and a half rope. He was unable to work next morning, and the captain threatened that if he did not turn to he would cut him to pieces.

The captain admitted flogging the man with a piece of rope, though he denied hitting him with the poker, and said that he deserved the flogging because his reply to the midshipman was "Go and do it yourself."

The captain was fined £5 for the offense, £2 of this amount to be paid to the seaman Russell if he returned to the ship. All the crew refused to return, and were sentenced to three months' imprisonment.

Those were the days when there were no seamen's unions. Those were the days when the skipper was king, and a brutal one at that. It took years of trade union action for seamen to establish their rights. Yet we have unthinking and ill-read men today who say, "What have the unions done for the workers?"—Seamen's Journal.

### BUSINESS FAILURES AT 1920 LEVEL

Business failures in September were at the minimum for any month this year or for a great many years. The number in the United States for the week which ended on Thursday, September 20, as shown by the records of Dun & Bradstreet, Inc., was 182. This compared with 199 and 174, respectively, for the two preceding weeks, the latter week, that of the short week of September 6, covering the Labor Day holiday. For the week of September 21, 1933, there were 259 similar defaults. In no full week since September, 1920, have there been so few failures reported in a single week.

### IMPORTANCE OF GOOD BRAKES

Check your brakes for safety in driving during the approaching winter months. This message to motorists will be widely spread this month by the public safety department of the California State Automobile Association. With approach of the rainy season the motorists' organization has chosen the subject of good brakes for a program of educational activities to extend throughout October.

### RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD

Retail food prices advanced 1.3 per cent during the two weeks' period ending September 11, Commissioner Lubin of the bureau of labor statistics of the United States Department of Labor announces. "This rise places the current index at 16.8, or at the highest point since October, 1931," he said. The index two weeks ago was 115.3, four weeks ago 111.8 and a year ago was 107. The ac-

cumulated rise in retail food prices has amounted to 29.2 per cent since the low point, April 15, 1933. Food prices are 9.2 per cent higher than September 12, 1933, and 16.5 per cent higher than two years ago, when the indexes were 107 and 100.3 respectively. Prices are 27.4 per cent below the level of September 15, 1929, when the index was 160.8.

### NEWS WRITERS WIN UNION SHOP

Madison, Wis., Newspaper Guild, having a 100 per cent membership of news department employees of the "Wisconsin State Journal" and the "Capital Times," has begun operation under a union shop contract negotiated with employers. The contract provides a forty-eight-hour week for reporters and desk men, with cash or time off for overtime.

### A RIGHT ALWAYS ENJOYED

That point is the recognition of the union. Organized labor always had the right to get that by fighting, when and where it could. It still has that right, not conferred by the N.R.A. nor taken away by it. The new question is whether it shall have that right by vote, enforceable by law and not by strike. If labor can have this right enforced by law, it will not strike. If it can get it, as it always has, only by striking for it, it will not surrender or suspend the right to try to get it that way. Anti-union employers, on the other hand, stand ready to arbitrate any question but this, but on it they refuse to yield except to the force, either of a successful strike or of the law. They will not yield it to agreement or persuasion.—Chester Rowell.

## Radical Marine Union Attempts Ship Tie-Up

Expressing dissatisfaction with the settlement of a threatened strike of the International Seamen's Union, an American Federation of Labor organization, a strike expected to involve 35,000 workers has been called by the Marine Workers' Industrial Union, a so-called "left-wing" union operating on the Atlantic coast.

The action was taken at a mass meeting in New York and is designed to call out the crews of American ships sailing out of all North Atlantic and Gulf ports. Three hundred persons are said to have attended the meeting.

The M. W. I. U. demands a basic rate scale of \$75 a month, an eight-hour day, a 33 per cent increase in the manning of vessels, a ship's committee on every vessel to represent the seamen and the right to join any union without prejudice.

Its demands were submitted to American ship owners on September 28, but the owners would not deal with the union.

The Marine Workers' Union is "dual" to the International Seamen's Union, with which the owners of thirty-seven ship lines have been arbitrating their differences through Lloyd Garrison of the National Regional Labor Board. They have questioned the right of the M. W. I. U. to speak for an appreciable number of seamen.

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## S. F. Labor Council

Labor Council meets every Friday at 8 p. m. at Labor Temple, Sixteenth and Capp streets. Secretary's office and headquarters, Room 205, Labor Temple. The Executive and Arbitration Committees meet every Monday at 7:30 p. m. Label Section meets first and third Wednesdays at 8 p. m. Headquarters phone. MARKET 0056.

### Minutes of Meeting Held Friday Evening, October 5, 1934

Called to order at 8:15 p. m. by President E. D. Vandeleur.

Roll-Call of Officers—All present.

Minutes of previous meeting approved as printed in Labor Clarion.

**Credentials**—Cooks No. 44, E. G. Buehrer, A. J. Vanbebbek, H. D. McDowell, Max Benkert, Gus Petrides, Theo. Pagonis, Steve Harris, Harry Meyers, Bernard Schiff, Otto Bruhn; Upholsterers No. 28, S. S. King, additional delegate; Filling Station Employees No. 19570, Phil R. East. Delegates seated.

**Communications**—Filed—Minutes of Building Trades Council. Waitresses No. 48, donation to convention fund.

Referred to Secretary—From A. D. Wilder, state engineer, requesting information as to what class of labor in the past has been customarily used for the caulking of cast iron pipe in this locality, and what rate of pay prevailed on April 30, 1933.

Referred to Executive Committee—Wage scale of Bargeemen's Local 38-101 of International Longshoremen's Association. Complaint of Hoisting Engineers No. 59 to the effect that the majority of labor employed on the superstructure of the Oakland-San Francisco bridge are not residents of the Bay district.

Referred to Law and Legislative Committee—Suggestions for revision of A. B. 2432, California Industrial Recovery Act, submitted by legislative committee of Northern California Council of Trade Association Executives. California State Federation of Labor Executive Council, submitting recommendations on measures to be voted on at state election to be held November 6, 1934.

**Report of Organizing Committee**—Recommended granting of application for affiliation with Labor Council of Filling Station Employees No. 19570, and seating of their delegate, Phil R. Kast. Report concurred in.

**Reports of Unions**—Janitors are having diffi-

### WE DON'T PATRONIZE LIST

The concerns listed below are on the "We Don't Patronize List" of the San Francisco Labor Council. Members of Labor Unions and sympathizers are requested to cut this out and post it.

American Tobacco Company.  
Baker, Hamilton & Pacific Co.  
California Building Maintenance Co., 20 Ninth Clinton Cafeterias.  
Co-Op Manufacturing Company.  
Domestic Hand Laundry, 218 Ellis.  
E. Goss & Co., Cigar Mfg., 113 Front.  
Foster's Lunches and Bakeries.  
Goldberg, Bowen & Co., grocers, 242 Sutter.  
Goldstone Bros., manufacturers of Dreadnaught and Bodyguard Overalls.  
Gragnano Products Company.  
"Grizzly Bear," organ of N. S. G. W.  
Hollywood Dry Corporation and its Products.  
Manning's, Inc., Coffee and Sandwich Shops.  
Mann Manufacturing Company, Berkeley.  
Market Street R. R.  
Marquard's Coffee Shop and Catering Co.  
Purity Chain Stores.  
San Francisco Biscuit Co. (located in Seattle)  
Sutro Baths.  
The Mutual Stores Co.  
Torino Bakery, 2823 Twenty-third.  
Traung Label & Litho Co.  
Union Furniture Co., 2075 Mission.  
All Barber Shops open on Sunday are unfair.  
All non-union independent taxicabs.

culty with California Hall and request unions to assist in the matter. Upholsterers are out on strike throughout the Pacific Coast for establishment of a uniform minimum wage of \$1 per hour for mechanics and 62½ cents for women sewing, and are to hold a conference with representatives of employing concerns. Tailors celebrated their anniversary last Saturday and thank for the large attendance of friends; will confer with employers for adjustment in existing wage scales and conditions.

Brother William Resnichek, secretary of the International Journeyman Tailors, was introduced to the delegates and gave an interesting account of his observations during his visit to San Francisco, which he found to be to his liking.

Trustees reported favorably on the bills and warrants were ordered drawn for payment of same.

Moved that no meeting be held by the Council next Friday evening, and urging all who can to attend the meeting to be held in Eagles' Hall that night to hear Walter Citrine, secretary of the British Trade Union Congress, who will speak of the Nazi situation in Germany.

Council adjourned at 9:05 p. m.

**Receipts**, \$690.60; **disbursements**, \$1486.49.

Fraternally submitted.

JOHN A. O'CONNELL, Secretary.

P. S.: Demand the union label on all purchases and demand the union card and button when hiring labor and services. Patronize the Municipal Railway whenever possible.

J. A. O'C.

### Conference of Garment Workers With President David Dubinsky

Pacific Coast locals of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union will hold a two-day conference this week in this city, with International President David Dubinsky and other International officers in attendance.

The conference has been called at this time to take advantage of the visit of President Dubinsky to this city as delegate to the American Federation of Labor convention.

Tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock there will be a mass meeting of all workers in the ladies' garment trades, organized and unorganized, at which time President Dubinsky will speak. The meeting is part of the organization campaign of the union in this area, as well as the official opening of the conference.

Tomorrow night the Pacific Coast banquet will be held in the Hotel Whitcomb. Several hundred garment workers are expected to attend. Samuel S. White, manager of the San Francisco Joint Board of the I. L. G. W. U., will be toastmaster.

Delegates from Los Angeles, Seattle and Portland will come here for the conference. In addition to President Dubinsky, the International's delegation to the convention consists of Vice-President Israel Feinberg, of the Pacific Coast; Vice-President Morris Bialis, manager of the Chicago Joint Board; Louis Langer, secretary, New York Cloak and Suit Joint Board; Giacomo DiNola, district manager, New York Dress and Waistmakers' Joint Board, and Z. K. Friedman, president, Bonnaz Embroiderers' Local No. 66, New York City. Max Danish, editor of "Justice," the union's monthly, also has been at the convention.

### BENEFIT FOR DISABLED VETERANS

Edmond Parrott Chapter No. 16, Disabled Veterans of the World War, through its officers, is making arrangements for their benefit program at the Baden Kennel Club on October 23. Celebrities from all walks of life will be in attendance, and it will be a gala occasion. A special racing program also is being arranged for the evening in honor of the veterans. The proceeds of the benefit program will be used for the benefit of needy disabled war veterans.

### CULINARY UNION NOTES

By C. W. PILGRIM

Monday night our visiting delegates were entertained with a dinner at the Edgewater Beach Restaurant. This is a house that can show most of the large hotels of this city how to put on a meal that is fit to eat and at the same time is well served, with plenty of efficient cooks and waiters on the job. The hotels of this city used to be noted for their food and service, but since they started to chisel on both their help and their patrons that reputation has vanished and instead of doing a good catering business, with satisfied customers, they have to compete with the hash houses. The managers of our large hotels should take a lesson from the Edgewater Beach; it would surely pay them in the long run.

Our business agents in the waterfront district report that most of the houses with a union card in their windows are doing a good business. A hint to the bosses is in order. Don't think that a house card is the only thing that you need to do business. Remember that your patrons expect to get value for their money. Don't expect one cook or one waiter or dishwasher to do the work of three people; it is not in the cards. If you pile too much work on your help the service will suffer; the longshoremen will leave you and eat somewhere else, and you will be squawking about bad business, just like the hotel men. Keep it in your mind that you can't get by these days if you are known as a chiseler. The day of the Yankee drummer who sold mahogany nutmegs is past and gone.

The Roosevelt, on Fifth street, wants to settle, but on its own terms, which of course doesn't go. Here are a couple of bosses who have spent plenty of money fighting organized labor and at the same time skinning those who labor for their benefit, expecting when they are up against bankruptcy to be able to play on sentimentality of union workers who have also spent plenty on the job of fighting them. It takes some bosses a long time to learn not to monkey around too long.

The California, on Fillmore street, is another one crying "no business." Another smart boss who would sooner cry than pay wages. Remember to stay out of the White Log Taverns, Foster's, Clinton's and the Pig 'n' Whistle. They are nice to look at from the outside but it's hell working inside them. So the less customers they get the less the poor devils will sweat that are crazy enough to work in them.

### DEATHS IN UNION RANKS

Since last reports the following members of local unions have passed away in San Francisco: Trip Frank Ziffra, member of Waiters' Union No. 30; John J. Donahue, National Federation of Post Office Clerks; Benjamin Olympie, Carpenters' Union No. 22; Angus Morrison, Machinists' Union No. 68; Manuel Peyer, Barbers' Union No. 148; Theodore I. Fenster, Musicians' Union No. 6.

### WALKED HOME?

In reminiscent mood Credulous Tillie opines that coffee isn't the only thing that's fresh when dated.—R. C. in the Springfield "Union."

William W. Hansen  
Dan F. McLaughlin  
Geo. J. Assmussen

Manager  
President  
Secretary

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## Promotional League

### Official Minutes of Meeting Held October 3, 1934

The Trades Union Promotional League held its meeting Wednesday, October 3, 1934, in Mechanics' Hall, Labor Temple. The meeting was called to order by Vice-President B. A. Brundage at 8:20 p. m. On roll call the following were noted absent: A. W. Edwards, P. O. Gaffney, J. C. Willis, Aubrey Bell, S. S. King and Thomas A. Rotell, who came later. Chairman Brundage appointed Neil Wallace as vice-president pro tem.

Minutes of the previous meeting, held September 6, were approved.

Credentials—From Sheet Metal Workers' Union No. 104, for E. D. Christie as co-delegate with Nick Ross. Credentials accepted. As the delegate was not present his seating was postponed until he attends the meeting.

Communications—From Building Trades Council, minutes, noted and filed. From Herman the Hatter, 2386 Mission street, stating that he has union-made caps in stock now; filed. From the Cal-Made Manufacturing Company, Los Angeles, who make these caps, stating that the above title will be the name of their firm in the future; noted and filed. From the Gallenkamp Shoe Company, stating that their shoe stores are 100 per cent union; referred to the secretary to investigate. From M. H. Frederick of Sacramento, Calif., inquiring for union-made brooms. Secretary stated he had already answered.

Secretary's Report—Reported on the union label exhibit at the State Federation of Labor, which was displayed through the efforts of Mrs. Louise Hoocker of Pasadena, and that the display would be exhibited here for the convention. Reported on his activities, which were approved.

Reports of Unions—Hatters' Union reported that their organizing work is progressing and showing results; that there will be a non-union hat on the market soon called the Adelphia; refrain from buying it. Bill Posters and Billers' Union No. 44 reported the large shops are fairly busy now, but the billers' department since the election has not been so good; in the coming election look for the Bill Posters and Billers' union label on all political campaign literature. Sign Painters' Union reported the commercial shops are busy and advertising shops not so good. Window Cleaners' Union stated that their strike, which is now over, was in a measure successful and beneficial; most employers are again dealing with their union. Photo-Engravers' Union reported the union is about to undertake a strong label campaign and hopes for co-operation from the League. Ice Wagon Drivers' Union stated business has been good, all members working, and receiving new applications. Carpenters' Union No. 22 reported they are having their difficulties with such jobs as the Sutro Baths, Bohemian Club and Olympic Club, as the contractors are chiseling too much. Bakers' Union No. 24 stated work about the same; are

holding conferences with the master bakers; that Torino Bakery is now union; that under the new bakery code they expect to organize all the Latin bakeries; Foster's bakeries are unfair to them. Pressmen's Union No. 24 stated business is picking up a little. Carpenters' Union No. 483 reported their meetings are well attended; still getting new applications, and work is slow. Operating Engineers' Union No. 64 is holding overflowing meetings, securing new applications, and no work. Stereotypers and Electrotypes' Union stated work is picking up because the kiddies want a lot of comics. Grocery Clerks' Union reported that the Hunken Stores, of which one is across the street from the Labor Temple, has not as yet adjusted matters with the union; request to see the monthly union button of the clerk. Office Employees' Union requests your opposition to the reduction of salaries which will be placed on the ballot this coming election. Molders' Union stated that the Wedgewood, Occidental and Spark stoves and heaters are local union-made stoves.

Trustees—Reported favorably on all bills; same ordered paid. Trustees' report for the last four months was read and approved.

Good and Welfare—Under this head Mrs. Louise Hoocker of Pasadena addressed the meeting relative to the label exhibits at the Pasadena convention and that being held here; that all should endeavor to see them. Thanked the secretary for his assistance both at Pasadena and here. The Ladies' Auxiliary of the League then spoke of the work of Mrs. Mary E. Ryder, president of the council of Women's Auxiliary of St. Louis, and that something should be done to impress both the women and the men in the labor movement that women are a very vital factor in the economic life of the family, as it is estimated that she as wife, mother, sister or daughter spends at least 85 per cent of the money earned and brought into the home. That everywhere this fact is being understood more and

more, and in many places such as St. Louis and elsewhere steps are being taken to organize this vast economic power, not by the men, but by the women themselves. This subject should not be let lie idle, but plans should be adopted and undertaken to also organize this force here.

Receipts, \$70.29; bills paid, \$112.25.

Adjournment—Meeting adjourned at 10:05 p. m. to meet again October 17 in Mechanics' Hall, Labor Temple.

"Educate the women in their spending power for the union label, card and button."

Fraternally submitted.

W. G. DESEPTE, Secretary.

### Virginia Federation Secretary

#### Protests Automobile Seizures

E. J. Shave, secretary-treasurer of the Virginia State Federation of Labor, has entered vigorous protest against seizure by police of thirteen automobiles, in which a delegation of fifty members of the Textile Workers' Union at Hopewell went to Danville to participate in a meeting of the Danville local union. The action of the police is held to have been entirely unwarranted.

Dr. Shave went to Danville to attend the trial of George E. Moorhouse and three union members of Hopewell in the Danville police court. The four were arrested.

Moorhouse was fined \$5 for making a remark to a policeman, quoted as being "To hell with you." Russell Lacks of Hopewell, a silk worker, was fined \$10 for a remark he was alleged to have made. Cases against Harvey W. Holt and Barney Savage, both of Hopewell, were dismissed.

#### BOUQUET WITH A STRING TO IT

"Is it true, Miss Elderleigh, that you are going to be married soon?" "Well, no, it isn't. But I am very grateful for the rumor."—*"Buen Humor."*

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## British Labor Leader To Be Heard Tonight

Walter F. Citrine, president of the International Federation of Trade Unions, and secretary of the British Trades Union Congress, will be the principal speaker at a meeting to be held tonight (Friday) in Eagles' Hall.

Other speakers will be William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, and B. Charney Vladeck of the United Hebrew Trades of New York City.

The meeting is being sponsored by the San Francisco Labor Council.

Citrine will speak in behalf of the National Labor Chest to Combat Fascism and Nazism. He is known as a fluent speaker, and his knowledge of European labor and economic subjects makes his appearance here at this time of more than ordinary interest. He is a special guest of the American Federation of Labor, and delivered a moving address before the convention of that body, now in session in San Francisco.

In honor of the occasion, and to allow the delegates of the Labor Council to attend the meeting, there will be no meeting of the central body tonight.

### Plan for Apprentice Training To Be Work of State Agency

A State Agency on Apprentice Training, as a unit in a national plan to improve opportunities for the youth of the state and nation, was organized in San Francisco last week, with Archie J. Mooney as chairman.

Will J. French, N.R.A. regional labor compliance director, and several representatives of the State Industrial Relations Department are included in the agency personnel, and these will select two labor representatives and two men representing employers to carry out a study which will be used as the basis for expected shorter work-week legislation.

The California State Federation of Labor and the State Building Trades Council will be invited to nominate four candidates each, equally divided between northern and southern California, according to Mooney. The agency will select one committeeman and one alternate from each group to be the two labor delegates. Employer groups also

will nominate candidates from whom two representatives will be chosen.

It is estimated that there are now two million or more boys and girls roaming about the country because they know no calling. The agency is being organized under an executive order of President Roosevelt to find means of training these homeless boys and girls.

Under the law worker members of the various groups must be representatives of the American Federation of Labor in the organized crafts.

### Employees Charge Intimidation Against Weirton Steel Company

Evidence to show intimidation of Weirton Steel Company employees was presented as the government suit for an injunction against the company was begun in Wilmington, Del. The government asked a permanent injunction to restrain the company from interfering with its employees' efforts to organize for collective bargaining under the N.R.A.

Witnesses testified that Weirton employees were afraid to attend union meetings, that dues had to be paid in secrecy, and that pressure was put on the men to support the company union plan.

Jesse Palmer told the court that his foreman had threatened to discharge him unless he remained loyal to the company in the event of a strike.

George Moore, a discharged foreman in the plant at Weirton, W. Va., said bosses of the company gathered outside the headquarters of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers when meetings were being held.

He declared that as a result many of the members were afraid to attend the gatherings for fear they might lose their jobs.

### STATE EMPLOYEES ELECT

Herman L. Engelhardt of the State Railroad Commission was elected president of the Civic Center Chapter of the California State Employees' Association Tuesday of last week. Others elected were: First vice-president, Miss Mary L. Kleinbecke; second vice-president, Mrs. Elizabeth Hall; secretary, Mrs. Mae Barr Long; assistant secretary, Mrs. Eleanor Middlehoff; financial secretary, Mrs. Irene Cowell; treasurer, Harold Waters; sergeant-at-arms, John E. Gurich.

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## Significant Progress In Hosiery Industry

One of the most significant advances that has even taken place in the seamless hosiery industry occurred when Rambo-Regar, Inc., of Norristown, Penn., an old firm and a key manufacturer, signed the national labor agreement with the American Federation of Hosiery Workers.

The agreement provides for union label merchandise and is the first of its kind in the seamless branch of the industry.

It provides for a set of wages and hours and conditions that will set the standard for the whole industry, and is particularly significant for the position the firm occupies.

The management, when it signed the agreement, providing for arbitration of all disputes, declared that they felt this step "important in view of the ruinous effect of unbridled competition in price in the seamless industry."

Recently, special contracts providing for wages, hours and impartial arbitration have also been signed by Sportswear of Philadelphia and Herbert of Norristown. These are not the national labor agreement.

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